



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

MEDIA RELEASE: NINE NEW POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

Date: November 11, 2020
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-2464

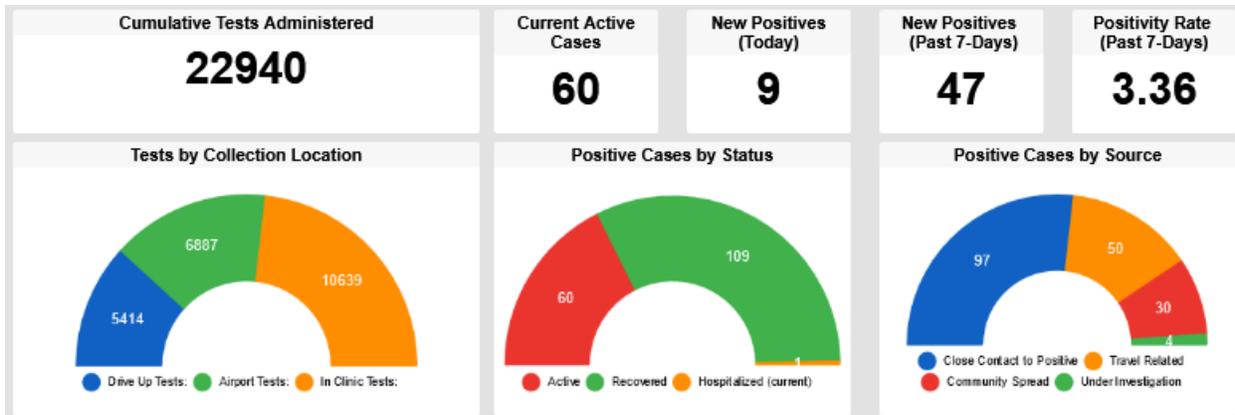
For Immediate Release

There were nine new Covid-19 cases identified in Ketchikan today through the drive-up testing clinic. Eight of these individuals are symptomatic and one is currently asymptomatic. Four individuals are close contacts to a known positive case and had been under quarantine, one individual had recently traveled, and four are under investigation. All of these individuals have been notified of the positive test results, have been directed to isolate, and are being monitored by healthcare providers.

Public Health has begun the contact investigations, and will coordinate with the positive individuals to reach out to anyone identified as close contacts, and advise those close contacts to quarantine for 14 days. Close contacts will receive a phone call either from Public Health or from the individual who tested positive.

There were no new hospitalizations reported today. One individual remains hospitalized.

Today's cases bring the cumulative Covid-19 case count, including travelers, to 181. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is **169**. Of the 169 cases, **60** are still active, and **109** have recovered.



Our Community Risk Level remains at Level 3 – High. We continue to urge all citizens to follow the recommended mitigation measures so we can realize a downward trend in positive cases.

Level 3 - High	<p>Significant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit non-essential travel outside home Schools: Open 50% with annex sites and safety measures*** Indoor: Limited small <20 mass gatherings with safety precautions (funeral, wedding, etc.) Outdoor: Limited small <30 gatherings with safety precautions Businesses limited openings with safety measures** Modified healthcare services (e.g. telemedicine, essential care, chronic care) No non-essential visits to congregate facilities (e.g. nursing homes) Recreation with expanded safety measures (e.g. low risk) **
-----------------------	---

Risk Level 3 Recommended Mitigation Measures:

- Strongly recommend masks and social distancing be enforced in communal settings and public locations with 5 or more people. If six-foot distancing is not possible, then mask should be worn.
- Strongly recommend businesses encourage telework to the maximum extent possible, reduce capacity to ensure physical distancing can be maintained not to exceed 50% capacity; close shared spaces such as break rooms, kitchens, etc.
- Strongly recommend bars closed, restaurants reduce capacity to 50% and ensure physical distancing with reservations required. Delivery or curbside pick encouraged.
- Personal services (nail and hair salons, massages, etc.) appointments only with one customer per each service provider. No waiting areas.
- Gyms-no group activities and limit capacity to 25%.
- Indoor gatherings limited to fewer than 20 individuals.
- Outdoor gatherings limited to fewer than 30 individuals.
- Modified Healthcare services (telemedicine, essential care, chronic care)
- Stop non-essential visits to Pioneer Home, Jail, Youth Center, WISH.

All travelers arriving in Ketchikan from outside Alaska need to have a negative COVID-19 test or quarantine upon arrival. If travelers did not receive a negative test within 72 hours prior to traveling to Alaska, testing is available at the airport upon arrival. The traveler testing is free to Alaska residents, and there is a \$250 charge to nonresidents.

- All travelers must **quarantine** until receiving the first negative test – **no exceptions**.
- All travelers must follow **strict social distancing** for at least five days after arrival.
- Visit <https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/> for Alaska travel and testing requirements.

The Free Drive-Up Testing Site at Berth 3 is open 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Free testing is provided for the following individuals:

- Anyone experiencing symptoms, no matter how minor;
- Anyone seeking testing related to travel; are using a state issued 7-14 day follow up test voucher;
- Asymptomatic individuals who meet one of the following criteria: those with health conditions; age 65 or older; health care workers; care providers; or first responders.

It is important to remember that if you sought testing because you are a close contact to a positive case, you need to continue to quarantine for the full 14 days.

For additional information on the Community Risk Level Matrix, please visit: <http://www.bit.ly/ktn-covid19-risk> Current information on the response to COVID-19 in Ketchikan is provided at www.kgbak.us/covid19. Information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at www.covid19.alaska.gov.

#